

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 037847  
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY EA/K:EHURWITZ:JCM  
APPROVED BY EA:RHOLBROOKE  
L/EA:EGVERVILLE  
S :WHTWADDELL  
S/S - MR. SEBASTIAN  
-----182119 100551 /66

O 182051Z FEB 77  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY SEOUL IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 037847

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, KS

SUBJECT: ROK AMBASSADOR'S CALL ON HOLBROOKE

REF: STATE 034967

1. ROK AMBASSADOR HAHM CALLED AT HIS REQUEST ON ASSISTANT SECRETARY-DESIGNATE HOLBROOKE FEBRUARY 17, TO DISCUSS FORTHCOMING VISIT OF FONMIN, SEC SUBPOENA, AND VISIT TO US OF OPPOSITION LEADER YI CHOL-SUNG.
2. HAHM ASKED WHAT SUBJECTS THE US SIDE WOULD BE LIKELY TO RAISE IN TALKS WITH THE FONMIN. HOLBROOKE SAID WE WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY REITERATE THE FUNDAMENTAL NATURE OF OUR RELATIONSHIP AND WOULD MAKE CLEAR OUR THINKING AT THAT STAGE ON THE TROOP WITHDRAWAL ISSUE. HOLBROOKE CAUTIONED THAT WE WELL MIGHT NOT BE IN A POSITION TO SAY MORE THAN  
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WE HAD SAID SO FAR ON THIS ISSUE BOTH PUBLICLY AND PRIVATELY. HOLBROOKE SAID THAT THE SECRETARY WILL PROBABLY ALSO WISH TO UNDERScore OUR INTEREST IN HUMAN RIGHTS. HAHM EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT THE PUBLIC HANDLING OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS ASPECTS OF THEIR DISCUSSIONS WOULD BE HANDLED DISCREETLY. HOLBROOKE SAID THAT AS IS NORMALLY THE CASE WITH DISCUSSIONS AT THIS LEVEL, BOTH SIDES WOULD

REACH A MUTUAL AGREEMENT ON THE PUBLIC HANDLING OF THE MEETING AND ITS CONTENT. HOLBROOKE WANTED HAHM TO KNOW, HOWEVER, THAT AT CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS TAKING PLACE BEFORE THE FONMIN'S VISIT, THE SECRETARY AND DEPUTY SECRETARY WOULD BE LIKELY TO MAKE CLEAR THE ADMINISTRATIONS DEEP INTEREST IN HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES ON A WORLD-WIDE BASIS.

3. TURNING TO SEC SUBPOENA ISSUE (REFTEL), HAHM SAID THAT ROKG WAS "REALLY UPSET" OVER FACT THAT IT FIRST LEARNED OF SEC INTEREST IN ALLEGED EMBASSY CONNECTION WHEN THE SEC "SLAPPED A SUBPOENA" ON THE AMERICAN EXPRESS COMPANY FOR THE CREDIT CARD RECORDS OF A ROK ASSISTANT AIR ATTACHE. APART FROM THE QUESTION OF WHETHER THE SEC HAD JURISDICTION TO DO THIS, IT WAS AN "UNCIVIL" WAY OF PROCEEDING. HAHM SAID HE HOPED THAT THE SEC COULD BE PREVAILED UPON TO WITHDRAW THE SUBPOENA IN RETURN FOR SOME MEASURE OF VOLUNTARY COOPERATION. IT WAS NOTED TO HAHM THAT THIS QUESTION WAS BASICALLY ONE WHICH THE EMBASSY'S LAWYER IN THE CASE WOULD HAVE TO WORK OUT WITH THE SEC. WE WOULD PASS HAHM'S VIEWS THROUGH THE LEGAL ADVISER'S OFFICE TO THE SEC, BUT THE QUESTION OF COMPROMISE WAS UP TO THE LAWYER AND THE SEC.

4. ON THE YI CHOL-SUNG VISIT, HAHM SAID THAT HE HAD BEEN INSTRUCTED TO SUPPORT YI'S REQUEST TO MEET WITH THE SECRETARY AND NSC ADVISER BRZEZINSKI. HAHM WAS WARNED OF SCHEDULING DIFFICULTIES, BUT TOLD HIS COMMENTS WOULD BE TAKEN NOTE OF.

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## Message Attributes

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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Review Markings:**  
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